



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS 15 IN COUNTERFEIT SCHEME

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton and United States Secret Service Special Agent in Charge Jim McGettigan announced today that a federal grand jury in El Paso, Texas, returned an indictment against 15 individuals charging them with conspiracy to pass and distribute counterfeit U.S. currency.

Charged in the indictment include: 31-year-old Raul De La Cruz of Sunland Park, NM; 37-year-old Luis Romero of Santa Teresa, NM; 24-year-old Saul Romero of Sunland Park; 28-year-old Jose E. Flores of El Paso; 19-year-old Jennifer Porras of El Paso; 25-year-old Monica Borjon of El Paso; 37-year-old Jorge R. Galindo of El Paso; 31-year-old Ramon Morales of El Paso; 25-year-old Ismael Lopez of El Paso; 24-year-old Ernest Castillo of Berino, NM; 24-year-old Alejo Aldaz of Anthony, NM; 23-year-old Andrew De La Rosa of Anthony, NM; 30-year-old Jose Borjon of El Paso; 29-year-old William Hernandez, III of El Paso; and, 26-year-old Sidina Mobley of El Paso.

The indictment alleges that from November 2003, the defendants engaged in a scheme to pass, sell and distribute counterfeit \$20 bills. Law Enforcement officials estimate that over \$15,000 in counterfeit currency related to this investigation has been passed throughout El Paso.

Upon conviction, each defendant faces up to five years in Federal prison and a maximum \$250,000 fine.

This case was investigated by the United States Secret Service together with the El Paso Police Department and the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo Tribal Police. Assistant United States Attorney Margaret Leachman is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence. The defendants are presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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